



Japan: Building Products Industry

Housing Starts – July 2008

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Summary

The Japanese Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MLIT) announced Japan's total housing starts for July 2008 at a level of 97,212 units, a 19.0% increase compared to July 2007. Year on year starts of single-family and multi-family dwellings and row houses increased 19.3% to 40,000 units, 15.9% to 49,690 units, and 41.7% to 7,522 units, respectively. Year on year 2x4 and prefabricated housing starts increased by 32.5% to 9,011 units and 26.0% to 13,842 units, respectively. Seasonally adjusted housing starts on an annual basis increased 1.2% to 1,143,756 units in July 2008, as compared to June 2008.

Housing Starts in July 2008

The following table shows Japan's housing starts for single-family houses, row houses and multi-family houses, as well as the total housing starts. It also shows housing starts for 2x4 and prefabricated housing starts.

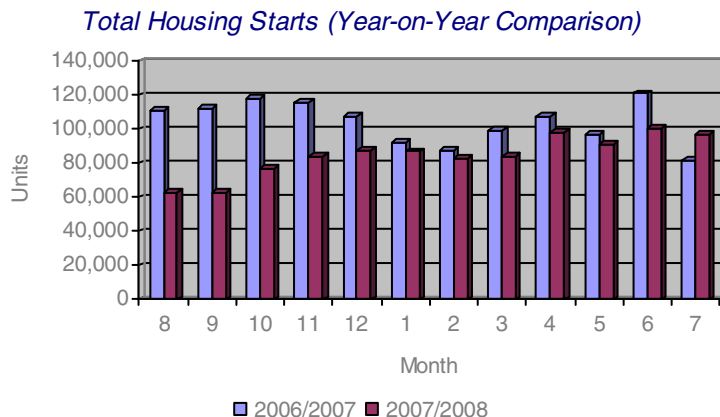
Housing Starts in July 2008 (Units)

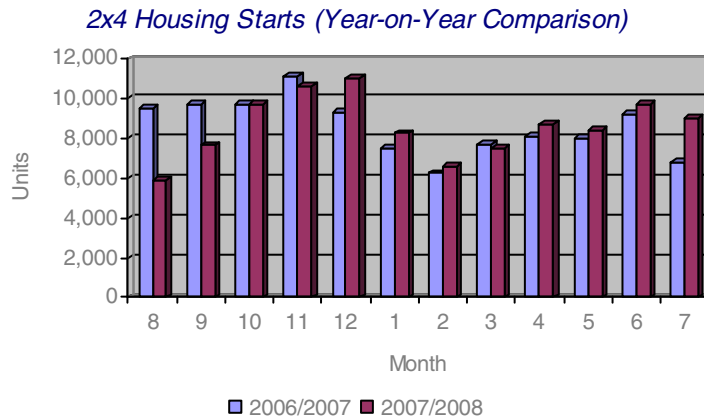
	Housing Starts in July 2008	Change from July 2007	Housing Starts Jan. – Jul. 2007	Housing Starts Jan. – Jul. 2008	Change from 2007 to 2008
Single-family	40,000	19.3%	266,104	257,126	-3.4%
Row House	7,522	41.7%	45,370	53,106	17.1%
Multi-family	49,690	15.9%	374,787	330,567	-11.8%
Total	97,212	19.0%	686,261	640,799	-6.6%
2x4	9,011	32.5%	53,611	58,318	8.8%
Prefabricated	13,842	26.0%	84,815	87,858	3.6%

Source: Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport

Monthly Total and 2x4 Housing Starts (Year-on-Year Comparison)

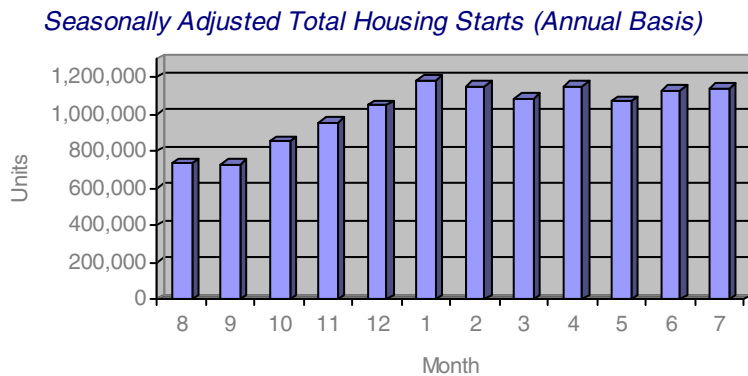
The following charts show monthly total and 2x4 housing starts from August 2006 to July 2008.





Seasonally Adjusted Housing Starts

The following chart shows seasonally adjusted housing starts on an annual basis from August 2007 to July 2008.



For More Information

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